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sale of alcohol is responsible for a great deal of poverty and pauperism as about one-sixth of the income of the working classes is spent in drink. Poor relief is badly organized. It is given by a variety of political units and when there are large sums to dispose of the poor are pauperized.

The strongest feature of the work is the method of investigation. Two illustrations of method will show the thoroughness of the work. In many subjects an exhaustive study was made with every regard for accuracy. In investigating land ownership the author attempted to learn "the total number of landed proprietors in Belgium, and to classify them according to the size of their holdings." Nineteen months were required to make this investigation and over 500 people consisting of 383 officers of the Belgian government and 101 private clerks were employed a portion of the time. Over 300,000 record cards were used in collecting the statistics.

The investigation into the standard of living was obtained from 70 family budgets of working classes living in different sections of the country and representing different classes of working families. Using Professor Atwater's standards for the quantity of different ingredients necessary to maintain people engaged in different grades of work, the author is prepared to state the extent to which the Belgium workmen suffer from lack of proper nourishment. His previous study of the budgets of workmen in York enables him to compare the food standards of Belgium with German workmen. The investigations into housing conditions were equally as painstaking.

The author has done for Belgium a kind of work that should be done everywhere by those who are investigating the causes of poverty. It is one of the most valuable books on poverty yet written.

J. E. HAGERTY

BOOK NOTICES

Industrial Accidents and Their Compensation. By GILBERT L. CAMPBELL.
Pp. 106. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1911.

The main points of a large amount of material relative to work-accidents are presented in this small volume. Not only does the book commend itself because of its brevity and conciseness, but also on account of its thoroughly scientific and painstaking character. The straightforward and logical presenta-

tion of fact after fact forms a strong argument for a series of suggested reforms. Ten tables of figures compiled from authentic sources point out the extent of the industrial accident problem. In regard to the social cost of accidents, the author maintains (a) that the victims are usually young men; (b) that the majority of them have families; and (c) that the standard of living of these families is greatly lowered by losses due to the injuries to workmen. A chapter is given to a discussion of each of the following topics: (a) the voluntary agencies in the United States which compensate industrial accidents, (b) employers' liability in the United States, and (c) employers' liability insurance.

This volume sets forth "the enormous blood-tax that is laid upon the workers of American industry," and centers attention on a phase of our industrial situation in which "bright hopes may be blasted, and happy families dragged to the lowest depths of shame and misery, while bench and bar quibble for years over puerile questions of legal responsibility."

E. S. BOGARDUS

A Study in the Psychology of Ritualism. By FREDERICK G. HENKE. Pp. 96. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1910.

Dr. Henke handles ritualism from the standpoint of social psychology and traces its development from its origin in primitive society to the place which it occupies in present-day groups. In the primitive group, the ritual was closely related to the general group-life and to the food and sex impulses. During successive and similar crises of experience, a fortunate and satisfactory reaction tends to be repeated until it becomes a group-habit. Custom hallows the group-habit and it becomes ritualized.

The author maintains that the practical motive in the ritual is far more important than the aesthetic interest. The ritual has survived because of its functional value; it has taken a practical place in the life of the group, promoted the group consciousness, and conserved group values. As long as it continues to function in this way, it will survive.

E. S. B.